

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05583 201135Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

CU-04 AEC-11 DRC-01 /173 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2172

INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 0043

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS UNN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV UNN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY RABAT UNN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS UNN

USINT CAIRO UNN

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5583

FOR USDEL MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE STAGE II HIGHLIGHTS - OCT 15 -19

SUMMARY: THE MIDEAST WAR HUNG OVER THE CONFERENCE LIKE A
CLOUD THIS WEEK. CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS AND APPREHENSION
OVER ISRAELI APPEARANCE HERE OCT 23 REFLECTED GENERAL
DESIRE TO KEEP MIDEAST PROBLEM OUT OF CSCE. SOVIET BLOC
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05583 201135Z

MADE TOKEN EFFORTS TO PUSH CONFERENCE WORK AHEAD MORE

RAPIDLY AND AT WEEK'S END FRENCH MADE SPLASHY PRESENTATION OF THEIR PAPER ON PRINCIPLES. END SUMMARY.

1. MIDEAST SHADOWS: ALGERIANS AND TUNISIANS HAVE BEEN LOBBYING PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANEAN STATES FOR LARGER ROLE IN CSCE, AND SEVERAL IDEAS FOR EXPANDED ALGERIAN/TUNISIAN PARTICIPATION HAVE BEEN FLOATED IN CORRVXMRIDORS. FORMAL SPANISH PROPOSAL FOR PROVIDING CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS TO ALGERIA/TUNISIA WAS OPPOSED ON PRECEDURAL GROUNDS BY SOVIET BLOC AND MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES. MALTESE ALLUSION TO MIDEAST CRISIS IN SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRINCIPLES FOUND NO RESPONSE.

2. PRINCIPLES. SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRINCIPLES CONTINUED A GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE PRINCIPLES OF SOVEREIGN EQUALITY AND REFRAINING FROM THREAT OR USE OF FORCE. FRENCH TABLED THEIR DRAFT DECLARATION OCT 19 AFTER HANDING IT OUT AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AND TURKS TABLED A PAPER ON FULFILLMENT OF INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

3. SPECIAL WORKING BODY ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES (SWB). SWB BEGAN GENERAL DISCUSSION OF SWISS PROPOSAL FOR A CONVENTION ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, WITH WESTERN DELS TAKING A GENERALLY POSITIVE INITIAL STANCE AND EASTERN REPS EXPRESSING SKEPTICISM AS TO THE PRACTICALITY OF THE PROPOSAL. SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED THAT SWISS PROPOSAL IN PRESENT FORM IS UNACCEPTABLE BUT THAT A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT METHODS MIGHT YIELD AREAS OF AGREEMENT.

4. MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY. THIS SUBCOMMITTEE COMPLETED EIGHT SESSIONS DEVOTED TO CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES (CBM'S) AND WILL TURN NEXT WEEK TO OTHER ASPECTS OF MILITARY SECURITY. DELEGATIONS EXPANDED ON THEIR EARLIER STATEMENTS ON ELEMENTS OF CBM'S; SIZE, AREA, TIME OF NOTIFICATION, WHAT TO NOTIFY. MOST NOTABLE WAS LENGTHY SOVIET INTERVENTION WHICH FURTHER STAKED OUT LIMITED POSITION ON CMB'S IN CLEAR OPPOSITION TO MOST ALLIES AND NEUTRALS. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05583 201135Z

ITALIANS HINTED AT LESS INTEREST IN MOVEMENTS THAN MANEUVERS. YUGOSLAVIA APPEARS TO BE TRYING TO FIND COMPROMISE BETWEEN LIMITED SOVIET LINE AND THEIR OWN CONVICTIONS. ROMANIA FAVORED AGREEMENT NOT TO DEPLOY ANY MORE NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR EXPAND MILITARY BASES. MOST DELEGATIONS OUTSIDE WARSAW PACT APPEAR TO FAVOR INCLUDING LAND, SEA AND AIR FORCES IN PRE-ANNOUNCEMENTS.

5. COOPERATION IN ECONOMICS, SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT. COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES SUBCOMMITTEE HELD LIVERLY DISCUSSION ON OBSTACLES TO TRADE WHICH TO EAST CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF DISCRIMINATORY EFFECT OF QRS, ENLARGED EC, EC'S FREE TRADING SYSTEM CITED VERY NATURE OF STATE-TRADING SYSTEM AS PRINCIPAL OBSTACLE. AT END OF WEEK, WESTERN SIDE BEGAN COORDINATED DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS CONTACTS AND FACILITIES WITH MINIMAL RESPONSE FROM EAST. IN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION SUBCOMMITTEE, WEST SPENT WEEK DISCUSSING CREATION OF CONDITIONS FAVORABLE TO COOPERATION. EAST SAID LITTLE IN RESPONSE, PURSUING APPARENT TACTIC OF LETTING WEST TALK ITSELF OUT. IN CORRIDORS SOVIETS COMPLAINED WEST WAS DELIBERATELY PROLONGING DEBATE TO DELAY DRAFTING STATE. SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE DID NOT MEET THIS WEEK.

6. HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION. AT FULL MEETING OF COMMITTEE III OCT 19, SOVIETS PRESSED AGAIN FOR IMMEDIATE DISCUSSION OF PREAMBLE TO FINAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENT, WHILE WESTERN DELEGATIONS ARGUED THAT PROGRESS IN SUBCOMMITTEES STILL INSUFFICIENT FOR THIS. SOME NEUTRALS, WHO ARE EAGER TO SETTLE THIS ISSUE, PUSHED FOR COMPROMISE. THIS WEEK SAW NO DISCERNIBLE PROGRESS IN SUBCOMMITTEE UNTIL AFTER THIS MEETING. IN THE TWO SUBCOMMITTEE SESSION REMAINING IN THE WEEK (HUMAN CONTACTS AND CULTURE), SOVIET BLOCK FOR THE FIRST TIME MADE A RANGE OF SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON NATO COUNTRY PAPERS. IF THIS CONTINUES NEXT WEEK THROUGHOUT BASKET III THE FIRST REAL DIALOGUE WILL BE SEEN IN THESE CRITICAL SUBCOMMITTEES. IN CULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE INFORMAL AGREEMENT EMERGING FOR INFORMAL WORKING GROUP TO HANDLE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 05583 201135Z

PROPOSALS SUCH AS CONTROVERSIAL DUTCH (SO-CALLED SOLZHENITSY) PAPER ON ACCESSIBILITY OF LITERATURE TABLED OCT 15.

COMMENT: CSCE HAS STILL BEEN UNABLE TO MOVE VERY FAR BEYOND GENERAL AND EVEN PHILOSOPHICAL DEBATE IN MOST AREAS. AT CAUCUS OF NATO DELEGATION HEADS OCT 17 NETHERLANDS REP ADVOCATED CONTINUING THIS GENERAL DISCUSSION "UNTILL IT BEGINS TO IRK THEM" AS ONLY WAY TO GET WORTHWHILE CONCESSIONS FROM SOVIETS. NO ONE PRESENT DISPUTED THIS LINE OF THINKING BUT OF COURSE THE FRENCH, WHOSE APPROACH IS NOT SO BLUNT, WERE ABSENT. WIDESPREAD APPREHENSION ABOUT SCHEDULED APPEARANCE OF ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVES OCT 23 IS MEASURE OF UNEASINESS FELT HERE ABOUT POSSIBLE

IMPACT OF MIDEAST WAR ON CSCE. PARTICIPATING
MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES HAVE OBVIOUSLY BEEN UNDER
PRESSURE FROM ARABS AND IF ISRAELI APPEARANCE PASSES
WITHOUT INCIDENT IT WILL INDICATE THE STRENGTH OF
THE DESIRE HERE TO KEEP THE MIDEAST OUT OF CSCE.
END COMMENT.BASSIN

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